Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

JJ&RA - JUVENILE REHABILITATION

Evidence-Based Regional Services

2015-17 BIENNIAL BUDGET



Reduction Option	FY16	FY17	15-17
FTE	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)
GF-State	(\$848,000)	(\$848,000)	(\$1,696,000)
Total	(\$848,000)	(\$848,000)	(\$1,696,000)

REDUCTION OPTION SUMMARY

As required by 2015-17 Biennial Budget Instructions, the Juvenile Justice and Rehabilitation Administration (JJRA), is submitting the following reduction option that would reduce Evidence-based program services to youth and eliminate six FTEs and Family Integrated Transition services. By implementing this reduction, Juvenile Rehabilitation (JR) expects fewer youth with a moderate to high risk for re-offense to receive evidenced-based programs. These programs have been shown to reduce juvenile offender recidivism and juvenile crime costs.

REDUCTION OPTION DETAIL

Evidence-based Programs (EBP's) are those programs that, through scientific evaluation and rigorous outcome studies, have demonstrated effectiveness and have shown to significantly reduce the future recidivism rates for youth that receive these services. Since the mid-1990's, the Washington State Institute for Public Policy (WSSIP) has undertaken comprehensive reviews of EBPs.

In October 2006, WSIPP published *Evidence-Based Public Policy Options to Reduce Future Prison Construction, Criminal Justice Costs, and Crime Rates*. The report stated that if Washington can successfully implement a moderate to aggressive portfolio of evidence-based options, then a significant level of prison construction can be avoided, saving state and local tax payers about two billion dollars, and slightly lowering net crime rates. This report was a key driver for the Legislature approving a significant increase in funding for EBPs delivered by the county juvenile courts and the JJRA. This new funding was implemented during Fiscal Year 2008 and was known as the EBE. Supported by WSSIP and the University of Washington Evidence-based Practice Institute inventory, a range of effective approaches that could effectively reduce juvenile offender recidivism were identified. Family Integrated Transitions (FIT) and Functional Family Therapy (FFT) are two EBP's that are identified in this reduction proposal.

EBE supports the delivery of FIT to approximately 60 youth per year by funding provider contracts to deliver direct services in specific counties, a contract with the University of Washington to provide consultation, and oversight to the program. In addition, EBE funding is used to support parole aftercare and supervision for the youth by funding a portion of a Parole Counselor FTE for each Region (one FTE total).



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EBE supports the delivery of FFT to approximately 51 youth per year by funding five Regional FFT Therapist/Coordinators.

Eliminating the services listed above may create increased long term costs to the state as these programs have demonstrated effects of reduced future crimes for those that participate. It is particularly important to note that any prison reduction forecast relies heavily on these programs being funded at current levels.

STAKEHOLDER IMPACT

Legislators may have concerns about this proposed reduction. EBPs continue to be at the forefront of legislative decision making. The 2012 Substitute House Bill 2536, *Children and Juvenile Services-Evidence-based Practices*, tasked the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) to develop baselines for the use of evidence-based and research-based practices with children and juveniles. Yearly recommendations due to the Governor from DSHS must include strategies to reallocate resources to increase evidence-based and research-based practices to move beyond the original baseline established. It is JJRA's goal to reduce recidivism and EBPs have evidenced outcomes that support this goal.

EBP's make a key contribution to the safety of the citizens of the state. Reducing crime in communities is important to community safety and reducing the cost for law enforcement and judicial processing.



DSHS VISION
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DSHS MISSION
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